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■ Students from Oxford & Cherwell Valley College, Banbury, from left, Emily Idziaczek, Rupert Lloyd, Chris Gorman, Harry Joyner, Peter Harvey, Cherise Campbell-Sullivan, Oliver Shore, Harry Parman and Megan Gambrell are promoting a blood donation day at the college tomorrow in memory of student Liam Treacy, 18, from Bicester, who was killed in a road accident last year.

Afghanistan veteran has post-traumatic stress disorder

EX-SOLDIER SPARED

AN EX-SOLDIER who served in Iraq and Afghanistan has been spared jail over a violent attack after a judge heard of his struggles with an anxiety disorder.

Stuart Taylor was given a 12-month suspended prison sentence for the attack which broke a friend's jaw in two places.

Taylor, from Waltham Gardens, Banbury, admitted causing grievous bodily harm to Wayne Brown, who now has a permanent metal plate in his jaw.

He had known his victim for six years and his barrister said there was "no other explanation" for his actions apart from anxiety disorder post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

The 30-year-old is a former soldier who served two tours of duty in Iraq and one in Afghanistan.

Terrance Woods, defending, said his client was based in Germany but left the Army after he was refused a further deployment in Afghanistan.

The barrister said he was diagnosed with

By Joe Nimmo

PTSD five months before he attacked Mr Brown, but had probably been suffering from it for much longer.

Mr Woods said Taylor became violent at a gathering in Red House Road, Bodicote, on August 17, after a woman alleged he had pinched her bottom.

He said: "He felt that he was wrongly accused and became angrier and angrier.

"Realising that a situation was developing, he thought the best thing to do was

But Mr Woods said he suffered a "loss of self control" and punched Mr Brown in the face, as well as damaging a van parked in the house's drive.

He said that after a "difficult upbringing", Taylor joined the Army aged 19.

He said: "On his tours he saw active combat and it is undoubtedly the case that, layered on top of what happened in his early life, that is what led him to be violent.

"There is absolutely no other explanation for his behaviour. He was among friends and he erupted incredibly after he felt wrongly

"He is now doing as much as he possibly can to address and alleviate that condition." Mr Woods said Taylor was now receiving

continued on page 3



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InBRIEF

Communicate with world

N OXON: Banbury Amateur Radio Society is to celebrate 100 years of wireless communication with a special event.

It will sponsor and operate a 48-hour event today and 10 others where members will contact radio amateurs around the world.

The branch is to represent the Radio Society of Great Britain, founded as the London Wireless Club in

The club is more than 40 years old and has more than 30 members aged 12 and up.

For information visit banburyarc.org or email BARS@G8OZH.com

Two rebailed over burglary

■ BANBURY: Two men arrested after a homeowner was threatened with what was thought to be a knife during a burglary have been rebailed.

The men, aged 31 and 32, from Banbury, were arrested on suspicion of aggravated

They have been rebailed until June 18.

The incident is alleged to have taken place at about 10.20pm on March 25 in Middleton Road, Banbury.

The 49-vear-old victim was not hurt.

Clean sweep for Labour in Banbury elections

Conservatives lose majority



By Mark Taylor

POST-ELECTION discussions on the future of Oxfordshire County Council resumed this week.

and Liberal Conservative. Labour Democrat leaders met after Tory councillors lost their majority hold on the 63-seat council on Friday.

Conservative leader Ian Hudspeth said talks would mostly be about the day-to-day running of the council, but might also involve coalition discussions.

His party got 31 seats, one short of a majority. Labour took 15 seats, including all four in Banbury.

Lib Dem bosses, who took 11 seats, have said they are open to coalition discussions. The Green Party got two seats and independents took four.

The Tories are set to stay in the driving seat at County Hall after Labour refused to form an administration.

Tory councillors lost their majority on

Oxfordshire County Council on Friday after dropping 14 seats.

Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green Party and independent members have the 32 seats required for a majority administration.

But Labour, which took 15 seats, has refused to either form an administration with the Tories or a coalition with the others. This means Tory leader Ian Hudspeth - re-

elected group leader on Friday - is set to lead a minority administration or look at a coalition with Lib Dems and four independ-

He said: "I'm having ongoing discussions with my colleagues and other members of the council.

"But the most important thing is making sure we get a stable administration in place so we can deliver the things the people of Oxfordshire care about. At present I'm not ruling anything in or out."

An administration will be formed by the next full council meeting next Tuesday, said Mr Hudspeth, leader since last April.

Lib Dem spokesman Neil Fawcett said: "We are open to working with any party provided it brings stability to the running of the council, and if it helps us to achieve our

"We are not ruling anything out and are happy to talk with all other members before a decision is made."

Labour took an extra eight seats while the Lib Dems took an extra three to bring it up to 11 councillors. Boundary changes cut total councillors from 74 to 63.

Group leader Liz Brighouse said meetings were held with Conservatives on Saturday.

But she said: "We can argue for our manifesto commitments from the official opposition benches.

The Green Party - which held its two seats backed a "rainbow" coalition, but has refused to work with Tories.

Leader David Williams said: "We know that it is possible to overturn at least some of the damaging cuts to services."

A significant share of the vote for UKIP, including 28 per cent in Banbury Hardwick - helped account for the Tories' problems.

Meanwhile, Tories in West Oxfordshire and Cherwell district council elections retained their seats.

The Conservatives held Carterton South and Witney East in West Oxfordshire and Hook Norton in Cherwell.

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■ *Iron Man 3* baddie Sir Ben Kingsley at event for young amputee

Movie villain turns into a hero for charity showing







By Joe Nimmo

MOVIE star Sir Ben Kingsley was due to be the guest of honour at a Witney cinema on Tuesday to help a girl who lost her arms and legs to meningi-

The Ghandi actor, who plays villain the Mandarin in the film, was due to introduce a special screening of new movie Iron Man 3 at Cineworld to help raise funds for Daisy Pashley, of Chipping Norton. Daisy - who lost both arms and legs aged seven - hopes to become a paralympian, and her family is raising cash for adapta-

Cineworld Witney operations manager Steve Wright said Disney and Marvel – which produced the superhero flick - made a "sizable" donation.

It is hoped the event will also raise awareness about the cause, for which donations are welcomed at daisyp.webs.com

Mr Wright said: "It's probably the biggest thing to happen in Cineworld Witney since it opened.

InBRIEF

Theft from elderly lady

■ BANBURY: An elderly woman was the victim of a distraction theft in a shopping area car park.

The woman was parked near the shops in Ferriston, Banbury, when she was approached by a woman asking for direction.

She then placed a large map over the dashboard, covering the passenger seat. As the victim helped out,

another unknown woman opened the car door and stole a black handbag containing credit cards, £210, and a photograph of her late husband.

The thieves are described as Asian and in their early 20s. They wore dark coloured clothing and red scarves.

The theft happened at 12.05pm on Wednesday, April 17. Call police on 101.

Burglars take valuables

iMac computer, a BlackBerry, a handbag and a wallet during a burglary. Burglars broke into a house

■ ENSTONE: Thieves stole an

on Lidstone Road by forcing a downstairs window between midnight and 4am on Monday, April 29.

The victims were in the house at the time of the burglary.

Call police on 101.

Ex-soldier broke friend's jaw in row

n continued from page 1

treatment for his condition at RAF Brize

Judge Ian Pringle said it didn't matter whether or not the allegation that had been made against Taylor was true.

He said: "Your reaction to that was completely disproportionate and you became seriously violent and punched Wayne

"You broke his jaw in two places. I hope you never forget that.

"But I have read a lot about you, particularly about your upbringing and about the service you gave to Her Majesty's Armed

"And I am glad to see you are now addressing the problems which that caused

after he punched the side of a van during the same outburst, causing £1,200 of dam

He sentenced Taylor to 12 months in prison, suspended for two years, with 120 hours of unpaid work and a restorative justice programme.

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Although we strive to avoid errors, some may slip through the net. If you find an error of fact, please write to the Editor, Simon O'Neill, at Newspaper House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0EJ, or telephone him on 01865 425450. It is our policy to correct mistakes where it is



The recycled paper content of UK newspapers in 2010 was 77.4%

Did you see a robber throw his trousers away?

TWO robbers threatened Co-op staff in Banbury with a knife before fleeing with cash - and then one of them threw away his Thames Valley Police last week

released CCTV images of potential witnesses to the raid, right. Officers said the robbery

happened between 9.48pm and 9.57pm on April 18. The CCTV shows four members

of the public who were on the railway bridge in Bridge Street, Banbury, after the attack.

Officers believe they may have

seen one of the robbers discarding his trousers before running off semi-naked.

Anyone with information should call DC Samantha Bonner on 101.

Paul Williams, 44, of Gatteridge Street, Banbury, has been charged with robbery and possession of a firearm and is due to appear at Oxford Magistrates' Court.

A 19-year-old man, of no fixed address, also been arrested on suspicion of robbery and possession of a firearm.

He has been released on police bail until lune 26.



Successful start for electrical recycling

A NEW recycling scheme for small electrical goods has collected 10 tonnes of items in its first month.

Cherwell District Council launched a doorstep collection service for broken or unwanted electrical items.

Households have been given a pink carrier bag for the electrical items, which can be left on top of wheelie bins on collection day.

Any electrical item that can fit

By Sam McGregor

in the bag, such as hairdryers, toasters, radios and kitchen appliances, can be recycled.

Special cages have been fitted to dustcarts for the pink bags.

During March, households sent 10,000kg of goods - the equivalent to 5,000 toasters or 9,000 hairdryers

Nigel Morris, Cherwell's lead

said: "It is great that in such a short space of time we have recycled so many items. It goes to show how popular this scheme is and how successful it has been since it was introduced.

"As a council we regularly promote the benefits of recycling but we understand it is not always possible for people to visit our 'bring banks'.

"So by providing initiatives

even more items from home it makes the process a lot more customer friendly, and as a result, even more environmentally friendly."

Previously residents could only recycle small electrical items through bring banks.

Anything too big to fit inside the bags, such as televisions and fridges, do not qualify for the

InBRIEF

Post office's strike closure

■ BANBURY: The town centre post office closed on Tuesday as part of a national strike.

The post office in High Street shut over a dispute between employers and the CWU union.

It is to protest against plans to franchise or close 76 out of 373 'Crown' offices by

Parishes may get bigger

■ N OXON: Views are being sought on plans to enlarge some parish councils. The plans would include an

increase of one councillor in Adderbury and Bloxham, to leave 12 members

Bicester Town Council would have 20 instead of 15 members.

Banbury Town Council would cover a larger area, including plans for more than 1,000 homes off Oxford Road.

Bodicote Parish Council which covers the area and has raised concerns over Bankside - objected to the boundary proposal.

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InBRIEF

House prices take a fall

OXON: House prices fell by 0.8 per cent last month, latest official statistics have revealed.

Data from the Government's Land Registry shows the average price of a property in the county now stands at £242,035, compared to £243,985 in February.

Prices are now at their lowest since last July, although they have increased by 1.7 per cent since March last year when they stood at £237,882.

Nationally, the average price of a home in March was £161,793, a rise of 0.1 per cent on the previous month.

Art work to go on show

■ BANBURY: Art students from Oxford & Cherwell Valley College will stage an exhibition of their work at gallery Forge 2, in Culworth, from May 15-June 29.

Among the pieces will be jewellery made from broken china and glass and silk

Help collect Mind money

■ N OXON: Volunteers are needed to help with a street collection for Oxfordshire Mind.

The next collection is on Saturday, May 18, in Banbury. Those who can spare a few hours should contact Nicky Clargo by emailing nicky.clargo@oxfordshiremind.org.uk or calling 01865

Good news for shopping centre as spaces filled and jobs created

Castle Quay to get three new retailers



Castle Quay manager Paul Jackson outside the Banbury shopping centre

THREE new retailers are opening at Castle Quay shopping centre in Banbury this month.

Furnishing store Linens Direct and sofa firm British Chair opened last week, creating

And eyebrow threading firm Extreme Brow Bar will create at least 13 jobs when it opens later this month.

By Oliver Evans

Linens Direct head of retail lared Carroll said: "We identified a gap in the market here and Castle Quay was the ideal location for us. Likewise, we are pleased to have created

10 new jobs for local people." British Chair will create three jobs. Owner Mike Lord said: "We are familiar with the

Banbury area and are confident that we will benefit from Castle Quay's central location and excellent footfall, as well as a skilled and educated workforce."

Extreme Brow Bar is now recruiting.

Castle Quay manager Paul Jackson said: This is a great opportunity for Banbury, bringing more jobs and further investment to the area, as well as greater choice for our

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inches. This motivated me even further to continue with the circuit over the coming weeks as I felt I was definitely going to aet even better results.

The circuit is areat!! helping me to lose inches and completely change my body shape. My challenge was to reach my year anniversary and have lost 3 stone. At my reassessment on 29th January 2013 I had lost – so far – a total of 45.75 inches and three stone! Reaching my own challenge and feeling so happy, healthy, toned, fitter and stronger.

My whole persona has become so much more confident and now not dreading the reflection I see in the mirror!! I enjoyed spending time at the gym, taking part also in the No Diet Club meetings, which is a 10 week course that helps with the psychological side to why we eat, what we eat and the reasons behind it. This has definitely helped me in changing my whole outlook on food, and so I have continued to eat healthily and exercise regularly resulting in me now losing FIVE stone overall and 51.75 inches as of 26th March 2013, a mere 14 months since joining Gymophobics.

Now the gym is under new management, and they were looking for part time instructors, I jumped at the chance to work there and help other ladies that would normally shy away from gyms, but wanted to lose weight. I am now a qualified, instructor working on the circuit hoping my story will inspire others that may think there is nowhere for them to go and get help with their challenges!

So to all those ladies out there who are overweight or have no confidence to join a conventional gym pick up the phone and call now as you can have the same success story as me!!



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Proposals drawn up to make sure county has enough firefighters

Fire stations facing a radical shake-up

By Fran Bardsley

RADICAL changes to the way Oxfordshire's fire stations are manned are being considered to address concerns about a shortage of cover.

Eighteen of Oxfordshire's fire stations, including Banbury, Hook Norton, Chipping Norton and Deddington, are manned by on-call firefighters – formerly known as retained firefighters.

While numbers have remained relatively static over the last seven years, fire chiefs said it had become increasingly difficult to cover the horses needed as the economic climate makes businesses more reluctant to release people during working hours.

Brigade secretary for the Oxfordshire Fire Brigade Union Steve Allen said the proposals were at an early stage and needed to be looked at in more detail before any decision was made to implement them in the county.

He said: "I am very supportive of any move to improve fire cover for the communities we serve, and it's my job to ensure these things are thought through properly at every level and we check and balance any idea in the embryonic stage.

"There are concerns the FBU has about this sort of move – some counties have gone down this route and started to back-track."

A range of measures are being investigated to make sure there are no gaps in coverage – and to make it more attractive for employers to agree to staff taking on the extra responsibility.

They include allowing businesses which have staff in the service to have a letterhead saying they support their local fire station, creating a payment scale based on availability, so the more hours people could be on call, the more pay they would receive, and paying on-call firefight-



ers to work core hours at a particu-

This would be a significant

change to the way in which on-call

firefighters are normally paid, and is being considered as a possible way

to give people who do not have

receive an annual stipend of about

£1,494, plus additional fees for drill

nights, call-outs and extra duties

which amount to between £150 and

is "more flexible use" of full-time

and on-call staff, changing crew pat-

terns so there could be full-time fire-

fighters based at stations currently

Nigel Wilson, area manager for operations, said: "Our overall num-

bers may be steady but it's getting

the balance between the numbers

strip out businesses on a regular

basis to make sure the fire engine

can get out the door - we have to

"We fully appreciate we can't

run entirely by on-call staff.

and the coverage we need.

work with local companies."

Another option being investigated

On-call firefighters currently

another job a pro-rata salary.

Left,
brigade
secretary
for the
county Fire
Brigade
Union
Steve
Allen;
right, area
manager
for
operations
Nigel
Wilson

For the last seven years, between 34 and 45 people have left the service each year, leaving the total number as of January 2013 at 348.

There are 243 full-time firefighters.

An action plan is being drawn up and will go to Oxfordshire County Council's safer and stronger communities scrutiny committee.

The fire service is looking to increase numbers to 375 by July 2013, with 17 on-call firefighters currently in training and a two further selection days planned to recruit additional staff.

Banbury has 15 on-call firefighters, in line to meet its target for July of 15. Hook Norton, with nine, is also on course.

But Chipping Norton, which has 18, needs another one by July, and Deddington, on 12, is two short of its July target.

Historically, retained firefighters stayed with the service for about 20 years – now that number has dropped to seven. The service hopes to raise it back up to 10.

It takes 18 to 24 months and about £30,000 to train a firefighter.



InBRIEF

Dental award for roadshow

OXON: Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust has won the best national smile month event gong at this year's Dental Awards.

The trust's oral health promotion team organised roadshows, including one in Banbury, to offer oral health advice.

Health improvement manager Heather Duignan said: "We are delighted to have won this year's award for best national smile month event."

The trust won the award at the Lancaster London Hotel.

Volunteers are sought

■ BANBURY: Home-Start Banbury is looking for volunteers to support families with children under five in their own homes.

Those who have two to three hours to spare every week are being encouraged to befriend a family. Helpers will receive training and expenses.

To find out more call 01295 266358, email info@homestartbanbury.org.uk or visit home-startbanbury.org.uk

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A Royal Charter for independent self-regulation of the press

Dear Party Leaders

Forgive us for saying so, but there is a problem. Six weeks ago, over a 2am takeaway pizza, a secret meeting of politicians and Hacked Off lobbyists put together a Royal Charter for statedirected regulation of the press. It's been condemned by commentators all around the world, from The New York Times to Russia Today – The Economist called it 'a shameful hash'. It's not what Lord Justice Leveson called for, which is 'voluntary independent self-regulation'. Not a single newspaper or magazine, national or local, has said they will sign up. And now you are going to have to ask the Queen to give it her blessing...

We have a solution. It's an Independent Royal Charter, the product of months of careful thought by editors, publishers, ministers, civil servants and some of the country's leading lawyers. A Royal Charter that will guarantee the British public enjoys the quality of journalism it deserves. A Royal Charter that will deliver what Leveson called for. A Royal Charter that will ensure Britain remains not just the birthplace, but the home of free speech. Here's what it offers:

- Tough sanctions. The new press regulator will have the power to impose fines of up to £1million for systematic wrongdoing.
- Upfront corrections. When editors get a story wrong they will have to correct it fully and prominently.
- Investigative powers. Where there is evidence of deliberate malpractice the new regulator will deploy expert investigators to call editors to account.
- **Genuine independence.** All the bodies that make up the new regulator will have a majority of independent members and an independent chair, chosen by a transparent and open process.
- No cost to the public. All the cost of the new system of regulation will be carried by the newspaper and magazine industry. There will be no charge for dealing with complaints about breaches of the Editors' Code of Practice.
- The support of the newspaper and magazine industry. The vast majority of local, regional and national newpapers and magazines will sign up to the new Independent Royal Charter.
- Free speech guaranteed. Britain has enjoyed a free press for 300 years. The deal between politicians and Hacked Off threatens to end that. The Independent Royal Charter is underpinned by a clause which makes it impossible for politicians to interfere with it.

Prime Minister, you said state regulation of the press was 'crossing the Rubicon'. You insisted the rules agreed voluntarily between ministers and editors were 'set in stone'. You quoted Winston Churchill: 'A free press is the unsleeping guardian of every other right that free men prize.' The Independent Royal Charter will allow you to deliver those promises – and guarantee that freedom.

Yours Sincerely

The Newspaper and Magazine Industry



banburycake.co.uk/news

BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, May 9, 2013 11

Cake Property banburycake.co.uk/homes

Offering space - either old or new

A FIVE-bedroom village house which has been in the same family since 1928 would make "the perfect renovation project", according to agents.

Grade-II listed Cumberford House in Bloxham is set in half an acre, offering scope for extension.

Priced at £750,000, it also comes with a number of outbuildings which could be converted into extra living space.

Dating back to the 17th century, the property has open fireplaces, exposed beams, window seats, shutters and a wine cellar.

Nick Rudge, of Savills' branch in Banbury, said: "Cumberford House has the potential to make a

By Gill Oliver

comfortable and spacious family

"With its pretty exterior and enviable village location, the property offers the perfect project and is priced to reflect this," added Mr Rudge.

Meanwhile, for those who prefer something more contemporary, a five-bedroom house in Deddington is offered at £625,000.

'Ithaca' is within walking distance of the village centre and has an open-plan interior.

It includes a lounge, dining area and kitchen/breakfast room with double doors to the rear garden.

The master bedroom and en suite wet room, plus a guest bedroom, which is also en suite, are both on the ground floor.

There are three more double bedrooms and a family bathroom upstairs

The gardens include a double garage, outdoor swimming pool, patio and lawn.

For more details on Cumberford House, contact Savills on 01295 228002 or log on to savills.com

Mark David is handling the Ithaca

Call them on 01869 338898 or see mark-dayid co.uk





ABOVE: Cumberford House, Bloxham

LEFT: Ithaca, Deddington



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and enter box number 116161

widow, 61, 5'6", slender build sociable, caring and well-travelled,

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ENJOY AND SHARE LIFE Attractive. divorced Melksham lady, 45, 5'5", red hair, green eyes, grown up children, loves the outdoors, travel, animals, family life, seeking a genuine guy, 40-50, for true romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138266 or send a text to 80360

a text to 80360
QUALITY TIMES Sunny, loving,
divorced, loyal Swindon girl, 46,
5'3'', average-build, likes restau-nats, walks, travelling, looking to
find a tactful, endearing male, for
love and an honest future togethe
Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box
number 138116 or send a text
to 80360

OF A GENUINE DESCRIPTION Laid-back Swindon female, 47, still looking for my Mr Right, to share and enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126129

126129
IT COULD BE US Spiritual, genuine Didcot woman, 47, attractive, fun, have grown up children, likes clubs, cafes, music, films, walking and reading, seeking a carring and optimistic man, for friendship first Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 123828 or send a text to 80360

WITH OR WITHOUT YOU Emotional, WITH OR WITHOUT YOU Emotional, reliable and sensitive Witney girl, 47, 5'5", just looking to meet an independent, reflective gent, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 140276 or send a text to 80360

rational and sincere Wallingford to woman, 48, 5'5", would like a date with an aware, intuitive gent, for happiness, love and laughter. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136967 or send a text to 80360

SMOOTH MOVE Slim, blue-eyed Trowbridge female, 49, 5'2'', GSOH easy to get on with, enjoys nights out, walks and more, searching for out, walks and more, searching for an honest, active, interesting man. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109958 or send a text to 80360

TOP OF THE CLASS Enthusiastic cultured and vibrant Melksham woman, 49, 5'5". looking for an enthusiastic, vibrant gent, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138880 or send a text to 80360

SHARING THE GOOD TIMES Funloving, affectionate and interestir Swindon female, 50, searching fo a fair, upbeat man, for good times a fair, upbeat man, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101568

I CAN MAKE YOU SMILE Sensitive, loving Abingdon female, 50, brunette hair, good sense of humour, enjoys dancing, music, current afairs, seeking a similar male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141600 or send a text to 80360

LOYAL TO EACH OTHER Confident sociable Oxford male, 51, enjoys swimming, walking my dog, seek-ing a caring, loving guy, 40-48, for a loving relationship. **Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number** 140043 or send a text to 80360

DIVE INTO MY LIFE Active, fit Chipping Norton female, 51, good sense of humour, enjoys swimming, walking my dog, seeking a kind, genuine man, for a close ship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141137 or send a text to 80360

START LIVING AGAIN Friendly fun Oxfordshire divorced mum, 51, 7", grown up children, looking for love again and someone to share life with. Is the right man out there for me? Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 798804

BUILD A RELATIONSHIP Well-tray-BUILD A RELATIONSHIP Welt-trav-elled, sincere Devizes female, 51, enjoys pub lunches, walking my dog, playing tennis, music, travel, looking for someone nice, to share things with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 139424 or send a text to 80360

TO THE FUTURE Flexible, life-lov-10 THE FUTURE Flexible, life-lov-ing, optimistic, divorced Abingdon lady, 53, 5'7", non-smoker, wants to meet a feisty, adventurous gentleman, 44-54 for friendship, hopefully leading to committed relationship. Call 0905 and enter box number 138484

SOMEONE EXACTLY LIKE YOU Car-50MEONE EXACTLY LIRE YOU Car ing, lovely, bubbly Bicester lady, 54, looking for a tall, kind, caring and romantic man for a lasting loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 118921 or send a text to 80360

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A New Life Irutriu, gracious an protective Wallingford girl, 54, 5'8", looking to find a truthful, sophisticated gent, to share and enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

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bubbly female, 56, kind, loving, seeks 6ft+ male, for romance, com-panionship & lots more. Bicester. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box

SHALL WE DANCE? Blonde, blue-

eyed Swindon girl, 56, friendly nature, well-travelled and loyal,

lover of life, searching for an active, educated man, who appreciates, food, wine and life in general.

Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box

MEANINGFUL TIMES Active, outgo-

ing Trowbridge female, 57, loves cinema, seaside, travelling and animals, would like to meet a man

for company leading to a possible relationship. Call 0905 005 2359

and enter box number 117215 or

FIRENDS FIRST Intelligent, attractive Wiltshire female, 57, widow, brunette, 5'2", likes radio 4, read-

ing, travel, art galleries and gym,

new to area and seeking a similar

guy, GSOH, for company and more Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box

RECIPE FOR LOVE Kind hearted,

2359 and enter box number

sociable Oxford lady, 57, active, caring, GSOH, enjoys rock concerts, seaside, animals and driving, searching for a warm, loving and funny gent, for company, sharing and maybe more. Call 0905 005

137082

number 110670

number 110895

send a text to 80360



searching for a genuine, professional guy, non-smoker, for friendship, maybe lasting love. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number There are many THE LONG TERM Separated, easygoing Oxon female, 61, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and more people for you to search, view and message

enter box number 100451

THE BEST OF ME Independent, honest and open Witney lady, 61, 5'6", likes cinema, dining out, motor sports, family life, wants to meet a practical, instinctive gent, for friendship and a fresh start in life. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138781 or send a text

SEEKING THE RIGHT MAN Separated, attractive Witney female, 61, 5'2", curvy, likes cooking, evenings in/out and much more, seeks friendly male, to enjoy life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128289

LET'S ENJOY LIFE Vibrant, sincere Witney female, 63, loves meeting people, good conversations, going out & about, walks, theatre, looking for a similar chap, for companionship and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 142189

CHATS OVER A PINT? Country woman looking to meet a loving, dark haired, sitm man. I'm 64yrs old, 5:7", sitm and fit, love being outside, walking and gardening. Marlborough/Wiltshire Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 112241 or send a text to 80360

HERES HOPING Down-to-earth, car-ing Irowbridge female, 64, enjoys gardening, walks, days out, pub lunches, witm honest, caring gent, for friendship and companionship. Call 0995 005 2359 and enter box number 139660 or send a text

HONEST RELATIONSHIP Non smoking Bradford lady, 65, 5'5", slim-build, blue-eyes with a posi-tive outlook, enjoy countryside, dancing, music, theatre, seeking a gent, 63-68, to enjoy similar interest. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 128404 or send a text to 80360

HOW SWEET IT IS Sincere Oxford-shire widow, 70, GSOH, enjoys theatre, cinema, dining, socialism, theatre and cuddles, searching for an honest, caring gentleman, to share happy times together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box nber 142433 or send a text to 80360

HAPPIER DAYS Kind-hearted, homely and sensitive Didcot homely and sensitive Didcot woman, 71, would like a date with a lovable, kind-hearted guy, for friendship and maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter b number 136207 or send a text to 80360

BLOSSOM WITH TLC Attractive Abingdon widow, 80, would like to meet a non-smoking, active gent, to enjoy days out and cosy times o enjoy days out and cosy dimen n with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 139676



FRIENDSHIP & ROMANCE Genuine, active Oxford male, 28, slim build, 577°, caring, enjoys the gwn, cycling and generally keeping fit, would like to meet a similar female, honest, CSOH and fun, for friendship and love, Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 173941 122941

SHARE SOME TIME Adaptable, upbeat and optimistic Oxford man, 33, would like to find a warm, laidback girl, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 134837

FRIENDLY COMPANION Friendly Kidlington male, 34, 5'8", blue eyes, smoker, loves pubs meals and cosy times in, seeking a female, for love and romance. Call 0905 005 2359 mber 141321 o send a text to 80360

WE COULD BE GOOD TOGETHER Down to earth Swindon male, 37, enjoys cycling, walks, travel and lots more, seeks laid back female for good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 100773

TIME TO SHARE Lively Oxford male, 39, 5'10", med build, enjoys motorbikes, clubs, cinema, meals and more, searching for a loving woman, to share friendship and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117999

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MUCH MUCH MORE Bright, upbeat and happy Oxfordshire man, 40, with personality, would like a date with a bubbly, tender, warm-hearted girl, to share the good times and great company. Could times and great company. Could you be the one for me? Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 111253 or send a text to 80360

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Outgoing, sociable Oxford male,
41, black, GSOH, caring, enjoys
living life to the full and would like
to share it with a bubbly, attractive
and kind female, for a loving relationship. Call 0995 005 2359 and
enter box number 127095

GOOD COMPANIONSHIP Confident GODD COMPANIONSHIP Confident friendly Wantage male, 44, 64", green eyes, likes cooking, sports, cinema, looking to meet a black lady, 26-42, to enjoy good company and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 141512 or send a text to 80360

ENERGIZER TIME Honest, friendly and charming Oxford male, 45, 6'3", stocky build, great sense of 6 3", stocky build, great sense of humour, enjoys sport, travel, cosy times and social drinks, seeking a fun-loving female, for happier times. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101716 or send a text to 80360

SHARE THE MOMENT Friendly, lovely and sincere Oxford gent, 4 5'10", wants to meet a homely, sensible woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box numbe 134382 or send a text to 80360

COME CLOSER Active, kind-hearted and upbeat Oxford bloke, 46, 6'3", looking to find an insightful, liberal woman, for fun and maybe a little romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 130080

OFFER ME YOUR LOVE Happy go lucky Windsor male, 47, enjoys cooking, walks, tennis, swimming and theatre, looking for a long term relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 126273

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL Kind HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL Kind, caring, down-to-earth Thame male 47, enjoys music, country walks, cooking, reading, films, seeking a kind, sincere, slim female, 25+. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter bon number 137427 or send a text to 80360 GET TO THE GOOD TIMES Sepa-

GETTO THE GOOD TIMES Separated, laid-back Bicester guy, 51, 5'10", brown hair/blue eyes, decent build, self-employed, looking for an attractive woman. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 136282 or send a text to 80360

TIME FOR A CHANGE Friendly, expressive and vibrant Kidlington male, 51, with plenty of interests in life, would like to meet a life-loving, interesting lady, to share love, laughter and the future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 114479

LOVE THE ONE YOU'RE WITH Friendly, warm-hearted Abingdon male, 51, good sense of humour, would like to meet a caring, well-matured girl, to enjoy good times together. Is you're looking for true love then get in touch. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 115804.

ACCEPT EACH OTHER Easygoing Wantage male, 51, own car, works full-time, likes most sports, would like to meet an outgoing female, for good times leading to more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box er 135164 or send a text to 80360 GOOD NATURED Upbeat Bicester

male, 52, 5'10", brown hair, medium build, looking for an at-tractive, black lady, for friendshi and more. Call 0905 005 2359 a mber 140492 or send a text to 80360

ETERNAL COMPANIONSHIP Outgoing, divorced Witney male, 52, pubs, meals, nice walks, family life, seeking an interesting wom to get to know better. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box numbe 126741 or send a text to 80360

ALL TO LOVE Kind and caring Oxfordshire male, 53, brown hair, green eyes, GSOH, searching for a nice, genuine girl, for friendship first, then maybe more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

PERFECT COMPANY Practical, original and loyal Oxford based man, 54, 5'10", divorced, into sport, history and much more, would like to find a pensive, kind-hearted female, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137091 or send a text to 8050 a text to 80360

LET'S DO IT Upbeat, friendly man, 54, good sense of humour, into most things, travelling, good foods, looking for love and romance. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 110840

TAKE CHARGE Bright, humorous and optimistic Banbury man, 55, would like a date with a chatty, active woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905
005 2359 and enter box number 132836

CARING NATURE Dependable informed and responsible Witney man, 58, 6'3", looking for a helpful, decent woman, to share a brighter future together. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number

SHARING GOOD TIMES Upbeat Burford widower, 58, own cars, works full time, likes days in and out, countryside walks, driving, looking for a similar woman for companionship, Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 117916 or send a text to 80360

DECISION IS YOURS Honest, easygoing Yorkshire man living in Banbury, 59, 5'6", slim build, self employed, likes gardening, cooking, cinema, travel, countryside, seeks genuine lady, to share life with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 140930 or send a text to 80360

PASSION FLOWER youthful, friendly Oxford chap, 59, 59", dark hair, enjoys cinema, bowling, active days out and socialising, searching for a loving, happy and loyal woman, to build a lasting relationship with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 101122 or send a text to 80360

DECISION IS YOURS Honest

SO GOOD TOGETHER Genuine, easygoing, happy Abingdon male, 62, own home/car, enjoys dancing, days out and walking the dog, searching for a genuine lady, with an attractive and happy nature. Call 0995 005 72599 and enter box number 466085 MORE IN TIME Self-employed

MORE IN TIME Self-employed Witney male, 64, loves cinema, theatre, eating out and more, searching for a serious-minded lady, for a loving and supportive relationship. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 109413 or send a text to 80360

MAKE A FRIEND Warm, romantic Bicester male, 65, searching for an interesting, active woman, for days out, friendship, meals and good company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 851123

A FRIEND INDEED Semi-retired likes playing bowls, home life, seeking an easygoing female, for good times and more. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 137812 or send a text to 80360

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JUST AN ORDINARY GUY Kind

hearted, considerate and loving Didcot man, 67, would like a date

with an old-fashioned, intuitive lady, for friendship and maybe

more. Call 0905 005 2359 and

LOVING LIFE Loyal, solvent North Oxfordshire gent, 67, 5'9", loves soul and motown music, coffee and theatre, searching for an attractive, interesting lady, 50-65, to share

and explore interesting times. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box

LET'S SHARE THE GOOD THINGS

LET'S SHARE THE GOOD THINGS Well-preserved Oxfordshire male, 67, 5'10", adequate intelligence, passably handsome, active, inquisitive, with a liberal outlook, seeking a bright, youthful lady, for a loving relationship. Call 0905 005 2359

and enter box number 108871

enter box number 456285

number 104998

OPEN YOUR HEART Cheerful, slim Banbury male, 70, 5'6", GSOH, likes sport, walks, animals and cos-times, searching for a decent lady, to settle down with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter hox 104901 or send a text to 80360

SEE FOR YOURSELF Youthful, faithful, liberal and sympathetic Middlesbrough man, 72, looking for a sweet, sensitive woman, for good times and great company. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter b number 141502 or send a text to 80360

to 80360

SOUL TO SOUL Divorced, active
Oxfordshire male, 78, 5'5", looks
younger, N/S, enjoys pubs, meals,
boot sales, crosswords and cosy
times, seeking a charming lady, to
share quality times and romance.
Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box
number 100937



HOPE THIS WORKS Cuddly Swindon lady, 47, easygoing and fun to be with, looking for friend-ship leading to more with a nice, friendly, bubbly woman. Where are you? Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 851817

enter box number 851817

LUCKY CHARM Serious, lovable
and imaginative Malmesbury
lady, 54, simply searching for an
independent, free-thinking girl, for
a special and lasting relationship.
Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box
number 134242 or send a text
to 80360

IT'S YOUR MOVE Sunny, pensive and trustworthy Swindon girl, 58, 5'4", average build, loves socialising and the outdoors, now looking to find an adaptable, genuine woman, to build a loving relationwoman, to build a loving relation-ship with. Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 142183 or send a text to 80360

GET IN THE FRAME Warm, honest, independent Oxfordshire woman, foo, with many active interests in life, now searching for a nice, honest woman, to share the fun things in life, and a lasting relationship.

Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 142484



ON THE MENU Attractive Didcot male, 43, 5'10", blond-hair, stocky-build, seeks mature, active gent, 60+, for red wine, fun and friendship, ohac would be nice.

Call 0905 005 2359 and enter box number 138566 or send a text to 80360

Banbury Cake

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banburycake.co.uk/leisure BANBURY CAKE, Thursday, May 9, 2013 13

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Leatherat's lead singer Pete Bailey, who is looking forward to this weekend's Bloxfest show

Eclectic mix for wanted festival-goers

BLOXHAM'S annual music festival promises to be bigger and better this year, and has added an extra day to prove it.

Self-professed purveyors of highoctane folk rock Leatherat will be headlining one of the four stages on Saturday, and it is very much their

Bloxfest celebrates the beautiful village of Bloxham, which is close to the heart of the band. Fiddle player Jono Watts was born and raised in the village and charismatic frontman Pete Bailey has been in

By Marc Evans

residence for nearly a decade.

Pete said: "We've supported Bloxfest from its inception and we relish the opportunity to play for the locals here as many of them are our close friends and family.

"There's such a great buzz in the village over the whole weekend it's impossible not to enjoy yourself. There's definitely a focus on great music and some superb bands are performing.

The event kicks off tomorrow

with an acoustic set from punk veteran Edward Tudor-Pole, founder of the band Tenpole Tudor and

former host of The Crystal Maze. As well as music on Saturday, there will be activities for all the family. Organisers expect around 3,000 to enjoy the shows.

■ The Bloxham May Festival begins tomorrow at the Elephant & Castle, from 7.30pm, with Edward Tudor-Pole. Tickets cost £5. It continues on Saturday, with music at a host of venues throughout the village. Admission is free. For more details go to www.bloxfest.org.uk

The Bloxfest Saturday line-up

■ RED LION STAGE Leatherat FolkLaw Big Balloosh 7pm Bushfield Smith 6pm The Shapes 5pm The BreakfastMen 4pm Lecarla 3pm Just nuisance 2pm Nijinkxy 1pm Indigo Child noon Bloxham Primary School 11am ■ JOINERS STAGE

9.20pm

8.20pm

Stone Cold Mary

My Holiday Romance

Heavy Dexters 7.20pm Straight Shooter 6.20pm Boogiesnakes 5.20pm Banbury didge Club 4.20pm Camina del Flamenco 3.20pm Next Hot Thing 2.20pm Delta Flood 1.20pm Oxford Fiddle Group 12.20pm Guys guitars 11.20pm ■ ÉLEPHANT & CASTLE STAGE

Transmission 9.40pm Freeway Jam 8.40pm 7.40pm Great big bargain Holly Perkins Band 6.40pm Barney Newman 5.40pm

Adverse Camber Damien Black 3.40pm Chameleon 2.40pm The Jeep Band 1.40pm Warriner School 12.40pm Unison Rock Academy 11.30am ■ RANDALLS GARDÉN

Darryl Everitt and the Seven Noon-12.20pm O'Clock Junkies 12.40–1.20pm 1.30-2.10pm The Tindalls Scarecrow Erin Lillev 2.20-2.40pm 3-3.40pm Palmerston Mark Pidgeon 4-4.40pm

The Linda Watkins Band 5-5.40pm

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CakeLeisure 2

Mish-mash crime thriller fails to engage audience

DEADFALL (15, 95 minutes)
Thriller/Action/Romance. Eric Bana,
Olivia Wilde, Charlie Hunnam, Kris
Kristofferson, Sissy Spacek, Kate
Mara, Treat Williams. Director:
Stefan Ruzowitzkv.

ET largely during a blizzard along the Michigan-Canadian border, Deadfall sends a chill of disappointment down the spine.

Austrian director Stefan Ruzowitzky, who won an Oscar for his 2007 film *The Counterfeiters*, abandons the subtleties of that picture for the cliches and contrivance of this disjointed crime thriller, penned by first-time screenwriter Zach Dean.

The script is a mess, ricocheting between four narrative threads that only come together in the film's violent closing act.

That haphazard structure prevents Ruzowitzky from building up any dramatic momentum or forging strong emotional ties between us and the characters.

He thaws our interest slightly with a couple of well-orchestrated action sequences that make excellent use of the icy conditions.

A car crash opens the film with a crash and a bang, and a subsequent snowmobile chase between two cops and a robber across undulating terrain has a satisfyingly grisly and bloody resolution.

Addison (Eric Bana), his sister Liza (Olivia Wilde) and an accomplice pull off a casino heist and speed away along treacherous, snow-laden roads, bound for the Canadian border.

The getaway car swerves to avoid a deer and ends up on its roof.



Addison and Liza stumble out of the wreckage with the loot, determined to evade the cops by hitchhiking separately to the border.

Liza shares a lift with former Olympic boxer Jay Mills (Charlie Hunnam), who has just been released from prison and is heading home for Thanksgiving with his parents Chet (Kris Kristofferson) and June (Sissy Spacek).

Addison takes time out from his flight to freedom to help an abused wife deal with her husband.

Meanwhile, ambitious Sheriff's Deputy Hannah (Kate Mara) tracks the fleeing criminals but she is constantly held back by her father, Sheriff Marshall T Becker (Treat Williams), who humiliates her in front of the other officers.

Deadfall is a peculiar mish-mash of genres, spiked with graphic violence and gratuitous nudity.

Bana invests his emotionally damaged felon with moribund humour in scenes around the Mills dinner table, and Spacek and Kristofferson are convincing as a married couple who have coped with far worse than gun-toting fugitives in their home.

Dialogue doesn't flow naturally and the shifts in tone between black comedy, romance and suspense are often jarring and Dean's script fails to seamlessly weave together its themes of incest and redemption.

CakeWhat's on

Music

FRIDAY: General Foods S&S Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury: Cody. Vocal guitarist covering hits from '60s, '70s and '80s. 9pm. 01295 252852.

01295 252852.
The Theatre, Spring Street,
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The Theatre, Spring Street,

Chipping Norton: Gypsy Fire Quartet. An acoustic white knuckle ride encompassing many different musical genres. £14, conc £12. 7.45pm. 01608 642350

Cinema

Odeon, Horsefair, Banbury: Call box office for information. 0871 224 4007

The Theatre, 2 Spring Street, Chipping Norton: Romeo And Juliet: Live theatrical screening from Moscow, Bolshoi Ballet, Sun 4pm. A Late Quartet, 15, Tue 7.30pm. This House: Theatrical screening of a live National Theatre performance, Thu 7pm. 01608 642350

Theatre

The Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton: May 8-9, Moby Dick. Herman Melville's masterpiece captured on stage by simple8, associate company of the Theatre. £13, conc £11, £8.50 schools. 7.45pm.

May 13, 1984. Sell a Door Theatre Company presents Matthew Dunster's faithful adaptation of George Orwell's novel. £13, conc £11, schools £8.50. 7.45pm. May 15, *That Is All You Need To Know*. Idle Motion takes you back to 1940s England and the secretive worlds of Station X at Bletchley Park. Using personal testimony, inventive staging and multimedia projection. £13, conc £11, schools £8.50. 7.45pm.

Events

SATURDAY: Guided Walk: Meet at entrance to Castle Quay Shopping Centre, near Parsons Street, Banbury. The British Red Cross are holding a guided walk of Banbury led by a local historian. 2-3pm. £3. 01235 552680.



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CAPTAIN FANTASTIC: Luke Ryan, seen bowling at Bedfordshire's Martin Weightman earlier in the day, was the hero in Oxfordshire's one-wicket win

Ryan's the hero for his club and county

Skipper and all-rounder from Banbury enjoying early season cricket success

BANBURY'S Luke Ryan steered Oxfordshire to a nerve-jangling one-wicket victory over Bedfordshire at Bicester & North Oxford on Sunday.

Oxon's captain hit the winning runs with two balls to spare as his side stumbled over the finish line in this Group 1 clash.

Having also won their opener against Devon by the same margin, Ryan is certainly proving a lucky skipper.

The hosts were cruising on 161-1 at the drinks interval in reply to Bedfordshire's 262-6, but then made extremely hard work of what should have been a routine task.

Bedfordshire's spinners found far more control and potency than their

seamers as the visitors came right back into the match.

Bedfordshire opted to bat first, but suffered an early blow when Luke Thomas was caught behind in Daniel Rowe's first over

Thomas's opening partner, captain Steve Stubbings, had other ideas and went on to top-score with 94 off 119 balls, featuring nine fours and a six.

Stubbings, who put on 115 for the second wicket with Robert Keogh (60), was finally out hit wicket, after playing back to a Ryan delivery.

Andý Reynoldson added an unbeaten 50 as Oxon struggled.

Ryan was the only home bowler to take two wickets, while Richard West had the best economy rate.

Oxon opener Damian Shirazi fell

cheaply in the hosts' reply, but Richard Kaufman and Banbury's Lloyd Sabin set about the chase with gusto.

They raced to 138-1 off 20 overs in style and were 161-1 at drinks.

The interval proved something of a turning point, with Kaufman falling for 68 in the first over after the resumption albeit to a terrific diving catch from Stubbings.

Sabin followed 10 minutes later for a superb 80.

There was a moment of controversy when Bedfordshire were penalised with a no ball for having too many legside fielders.

And when Nathan Hawkes and Jamie Perkin fell in quick succession, there was more than a touch of tension creeping in.

It was 185-6 when Cater added to the

collapse, but Oxon rallied with David Smith and West.

However, they shot themselves in the foot again when Smith skied a drive and West ran himself out. Chad Keegan smashed 27 off just 13

balls, but was out to a soft shot having hit Andy Reynoldson for successive sixes. This left Rowe and Ryan to save the day.

Ryan also shone with bat and ball as Banbury beat Lutterworth by 11 runs in the Kingfisher Cup. He hammered 46 off 36 balls to

help the visitors reach 260-8.

Ryan halted their progress, with 4-26 from nine overs as the hosts. finished just short on 249-8.

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Peugeot vauxhall

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Auris adds dash of fun to family hatch

CakeMotoring

By David Duffy

THE fact that 'rational' is the eighth word in a press pack running to more than 5,300 words about the new Toyota Auris speaks volumes about this car.

Hard on its heels in the chunky blurb are the holy trinity of family motoring - quality, durability and reliability

And if we were talking about the old model, these few words would pretty neatly sum up the appeal of the Auris in its entirety. Rock-solid reliable, but a little dull.

The new model has added another element that has never been part of the Auris make-up in the past - emotion. That's clear the moment you see it in the car park. Sleeker looks and a more confident stance instantly create a greater connection

That appeal to the heart, as well as the head, only grows when you get to drive it. Though the Auris is still clearly designed as a quiet, comfortable spacious family car, there is much more to love about this streamlined, five-door hatchback as a driver's car.

Designed primarily for sales in Europe and built at Toyota's factory in Derbyshire, with its lower roofline it looks the part and on the move it is simply more fun.

With a lower centre of gravity, it

has much improved handling, highspeed stability and ride comfort.

The test model was linked to the continuously variable Multidrive S transmission, giving the choice of a fully-automatic seamless shift mode, or a sequential, stepped sevenspeed Sport mode.

Toyota claims almost 50mpg in a day-to-day use from the 1.6-litre engine but I could only nudge close

From front to back, the car has been improved. Inside, the new, more comfortable seats have a lower hip point, longer travel and greater height adjustment. In the boot, luggage space has been increased.

The instrument layout is clear and simple, but the level of technology packed in is premium grade. The test model, in top-of-the-range Excel trim, wanted for nothing. From twinsetting, heated front seats to a rear colour parking camera, cruise

Auto facts

Model: Toyota Auris Excel 1.6 CVT Insurance group: 14 (1-50) Fuel consumption (Combined)

48.7mpg Top speed: 118mph Length: 427.5cm/168.3in

Width: 176cm/69.3in Luggage capacity: 13.7 cu ft

Fuel tank capacity 11 gallons/50 litres CO₂ emissions: 136g/km Warranty: 5 years/100,000 miles

WILLING WORKHORSE: The Auris is as dependable as ever

system that automatically parallel parks the car, the level of equipment

The Excel grade seats are finished

Standard features on all versions include seven airbags, conditioning, follow-me-home headlights, hill-start assist control, follow-me-home vehicle stability control and LED

Like its predecessor, the Auris worthy, remains willing

But do not confuse a rational

Wheelsanddeals

- SEAT'S popular Mii city car is now available with a new finance offer, giving customers the opportunity to get behind the wheel for £79 per month. The offer also applies to the Mii Toca, a special edition based on the mid-range SE model but with the addition of rear parking sensors and the impressive SEAT Portable system. The £79 offer is available until the end of June, on a 42month personal contract hire agreement with a £2,630 advanced payment, and assuming a maximum of 5,000 miles per annum.
- FIAT has announced the introduction of a limited edition version of its popular Punto supermini, the Punto Jet Black. Featuring a dark exterior, the car offers great value for money. Priced at £12,000 on the road, it is available with a 0% PCP offer of £99 per month. Limited to just 300 examples, the threedoor Punto Jet Black is on sale throughout the UK Fiat dealer network.

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2003 53 CITROEN C3 1.4 SX, Silver, 5 door, PAS, Electric windows, Remote central locking, Radio CD, Lovely through out, Sold with a new MOT and a full service and a new cam belt kit, HPI clear £2.495

SKODA FABIA 1.4 CLASSIC, Dark Green, 5 Door, PAS. £1,495 NISSAN MICRA 1.0, Silver, Lovely condition, PAS, New MOT £795

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Newcarscene

MG unveils new concept in Shanghai

THERE is no longer any doubt about the importance of China in terms of the global market even the average Joe on the street understands that - but the Chinese impact on the car industry has been more of a slow burner.

In a clever move by the Chinese authorities, any car manufacturer wishing to sell cars in China had to set up a joint venture with a domestic company in order to do so. The fruits of those tie-ups mean

> many more European brands on the roads while the home

firms get access to better

technology and engineering. So the annual Shanghai Motor Show has increased in importance with each passing year, illustrating the closer links between car companies in the West and the East.

But perhaps of most interest back in the UK was the debut of the MG CS concept.

What was left of MG was bought by Chinese firm SAIC, which saw the re-birth of the MG TF and the introduction of the MG6. But the CS is a new product, a small SUV based on the architecture of another new car to come from MG, but

most importantly is the promise it holds for what was once a British success story. Although the concept was shown at

Shanghai, MG has confirmed a production version will appear and it will reach UK showrooms, providing a muchneeded boost.

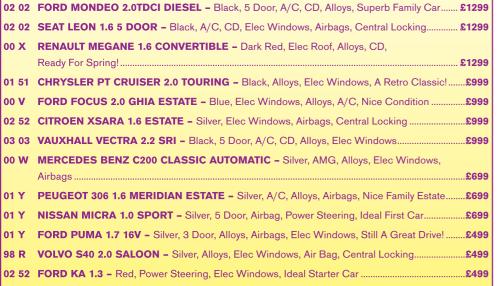
This is just the beginning for MG, but cars such as the CS and the forthcoming MG3 supermini will give the brand back much of its appeal and open it up to customers who know little of its past — and in many respects, this can only be a good thing.

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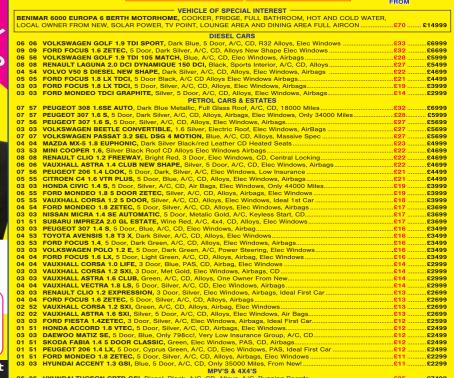
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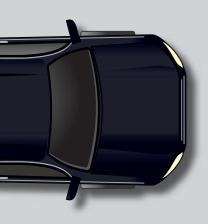
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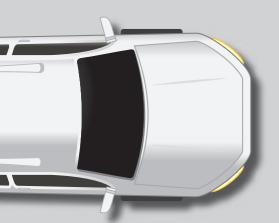
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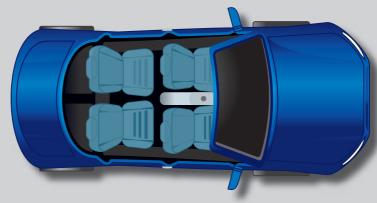


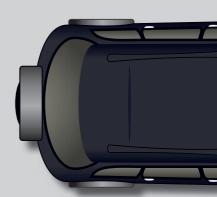


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